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EXPORT OF BOVINE FRESH MEAT AND MEAT PRODUCTS TO FRENCH POLYNESIA

NOTES FOR THE GUIDANCE OF OFFICIAL VETERINARIANS AND EXPORTERS

PLEASE NOTE: These notes for guidance (NFGs) are not intended to operate as a standalone document, but must be read in conjunction with export health certificate 7018EHC.

We would also strongly advise exporters to verify the requirements of the importing country by contacting the appropriate veterinary authorities, or their representatives in the UK, in advance of each consignment.

1. SCOPE

7018EHC may be used to accompany exports of fresh meat of bovine origin originating from the UK and certain other EU Member States to French Polynesia. Also included within the scope of the certificate are meat products of bovine origin and products containing tallow (other than deproteinated tallow), gelatine and collagen that have been manufactured subject to the conditions laid down in the certificate.

2. IMPORT PERMIT

Exporters are advised to contact the veterinary authorities of French Polynesia prior to export for the latest information on requirements for any import documentation.

3. CERTIFICATION BY AN OFFICIAL VETERINARIAN

This certificate may be signed by an Official Veterinarian (OV) appointed by the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, the Scottish Government, Welsh Government or the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (DAERA) Northern Ireland, who is on the appropriate panel for export purposes or who holds the appropriate Official Controls Qualification (Veterinary) (OCQ(V)) authorisation.

The 'Official Veterinarian' stamp should be affixed to the certificate in the normal manner.

4. ASSIMILATED EU REGULATIONS 852/2004, 853/2004 AND 2017/625

Paragraphs IV(a) and IV(b) may be certified on the basis of evidence that the slaughterhouse, cutting plant, meat products plant (if applicable) and cold store are officially approved and operating in accordance with the above Regulations by the relevant competent authority in the UK.

5. ORIGIN OF THE BOVINE ANIMALS

In the case of animals of UK origin, the statement referring to the origin of the animals in paragraph IV (c) can be certified on the basis of a statement from the producers' veterinarian/s or on the basis of familiarity with procurement procedures and examination of appropriate records.

In the case of animals originating from other EU Member States, the 7018NFG (Cleared 18/03/2009) (Revised 09/04/2025)

Official Veterinarian must check health documents to ensure that only meat derived from animals originating from the EU Member States listed in paragraph 7 below is exported to French Polynesia.

6. EU MEMBER STATES WITH CONTROLLED AND NEGLIGIBLE BSE RISK

Paragraph IV(c) refers. In accordance with WOAHA BSE risk official status ([Bovine spongiform encephalopathy aka BSE- WOAHA](#)), all EU Member States are recognised as having a negligible BSE risk with the exception of Greece, which is recognised as having a controlled BSE risk.

7. OFFICIAL DISEASE CLEARANCE

Sub-paragraph IV(d) (e) refers. In the case of fresh meat derived from animals solely of UK origin, the certifying Official Veterinarian may certify country freedom for the diseases listed in this paragraph provided written authority to do so has been obtained on a valid form 618NDC issued by Animal Health.

In the case of fresh meat derived from animals not of UK origin, the Official Veterinarian must carry out the necessary checks to verify that the EU Member State of origin meets the requirements of this paragraph. Official Veterinarians may access the WOAHA Terrestrial Manual at the WOAHA - WAHIS website < <https://wahis.woah.org/#/dashboards/country-or-disease-dashboard> > and select the appropriate EU Member State of origin for the relevant disease of interest.

Alternatively, they may wish to contact the Animal Health Central Operations for Export at Carlisle on 03000 200 301 for further advice.

8. MEAT PRODUCTS – OTHER TREATMENTS

Sub-paragraph IV(d) (iii) refers. This paragraph offers various options for the sterilisation or heat treatment of meat products exported to French Polynesia. Both sub-sections of this sub-paragraph may be deleted in the case of export of fresh meat, or the appropriate sub-section deleted in the case of export of sterilised or heat-treated meat products.

9. ANTHRAX CLEARANCE AND VACCINATION

Paragraph IV(e) refers. In the case of animals originating from Great Britain (England, Wales and Scotland), this paragraph may be signed on that basis of the 618NDC form. Furthermore, no anthrax vaccine is currently authorised

for use in Great Britain and, in the event that use of anthrax vaccine is authorised, the withdrawal period prior to slaughter is 42 days.

10. Official Veterinarians should verify the above information on the occurrence of anthrax from the [Notifiable diseases in animals - GOV.UK](#) website and [Official Veterinarian Training](#)

In the case of animals imported from other EU Member States and Northern Ireland, the Official Veterinarian should carry out checks to verify that the conditions of this paragraph can be met. Official Veterinarians are advised that undertaking these checks may not be particularly straightforward.

11. **STUNNING METHODS**

Paragraph IV(f) refers. Official Veterinarians may certify this paragraph on the basis of the requirements of Assimilated Regulation (EC) No 999/2001 implemented in GB, or their personal knowledge of the stunning methods used in the slaughterhouse. In the case of meat derived from cattle slaughtered elsewhere in the EU or NI, this paragraph may be certified on the basis that the stunning of cattle by injection of compressed air and the procedure of pithing cattle is prohibited by Regulation (EC) 999/2001.

12. **SRM AND MSM**

Paragraph IV(g) refers. In the case of fresh meat originating from the UK or EU, absence of specified risk materials may be certified on the basis of compliance of the premises with the controls laid down in (Assimilated) Regulation (EC) 999/2001 and the presence of an UK/GB/EU health or identification mark. In addition, the use of ruminant material for the production of mechanically separated meat is prohibited by (Assimilated) Regulation (EC) 999/2001.

13. **COMPLETION OF THE CERTIFICATE AND RETURN OF COPY TO ANIMAL HEALTH**

The Official Veterinarian must sign and stamp the health certificate in an ink of any colour other than black. A copy of this certificate must be sent to Animal Health Central Operations for Export at Carlisle within 7 days of signing.

14. **DISCLAIMER**

The DEFRA disclaimer (Form 372DMR) will be issued to the exporter with this certificate for his/her information. The certificate is provided on the basis of information available at the time and may not necessarily comply fully with the requirements of the importing country. It is the exporter's responsibility to check the certificate against any relevant import permit or any advice provided by the competent authority in the importing country. If these do not match, the exporter should contact the Global Animal Health Team via the appropriate address in the link given below.

<http://www.defra.gov.uk/animalh/int-trde/general/contacts.htm>